

REMARKS

First applicant thanks the Examiner for discussing this case with Applicant's representative on July 18, 2007. A Statement of Substance of Interview is enclosed herewith.

Claims 2-4, 8, 9, 13, and 16-18 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 16-18 are withdrawn from consideration. In summary, the Examiner now only applies Mano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,793,366) to support the rejections of claims 2-4, 8, 9, and 13¹. Specifically, claims 2-4, 8, 9, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Mano.

With respect to independent claim 2, Applicant previously argued that Mano does not teach or suggest at least, "wherein the client device establishes said communication channel with respect to the server devices by periodic polling in the step (a), wherein said periodic polling occurs at regular intervals," as recited in claim 2. Applicant also previously argued that the Examiner is obviously utilizing impermissible hindsight reasoning in determining that the subject matter of claim 2 is satisfied by Mano, and argued that even if a determination is made as to whether a component has been hot-plugged into a serial bus network, there is no disclosure or suggestion that such determination amounts to periodic polling. That is, there is no polling that occurs at regular intervals, as recited in claim 2.

Applicant maintains this same argument as the Examiner does not address the argument that there is no disclosure or suggestion that such determination amounts to periodic polling. Nowhere does Mano disclose or suggest this feature.

¹ Previously, these claims were rejected over the combination of Mano and Lawande et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,405,247).

Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to claim 2.

Applicant submits that dependent claims 3, 4, 8, and 9 are patentable at least by virtue of their indirect or direct dependency from independent claim 2.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 2-4, 8, 9, 13, and 16-18 are patentably distinguishable over the applied references, either alone or in combination.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

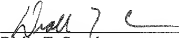
Respectfully submitted,

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER


Diallo T. Crenshaw
Registration No. 52,778

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